

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A method for the treatment of metanephric tissue that is transplanted into a recipient comprising contacting said metanephric tissue with a growth factor-containing composition comprising one or more growth factors for metanephric development.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said growth factor-containing composition comprises one or more growth factor selected from the group consisting of insulin-like growth factor I, insulin-like growth factor II, transforming growth factor alpha, transforming growth factor beta, acidic fibroblast growth factor, basic fibroblast growth factor, vascular endothelial growth factor, platelet-derived growth factor, nerve growth factor, transferrin, prostaglandin E₁, sodium selenite, vitamin A, and growth hormone.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein said metanephric tissue is contacted with said growth factor-containing composition *in vitro* prior to transplanting said metanephric tissue into said recipient.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein said metanephric tissue is contacted with said growth factor-containing composition for less than 8 hours.
5. The method of claim 3 wherein said metanephric tissue is contacted with said growth factor-containing composition for less than 2 hours.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein said metanephric tissue is contacted with said growth factor-containing composition *in vivo*, after being transplanted into said recipient.
7. The method of claim 6 wherein said growth factor-containing composition is administered to said metanephric tissue at the time a ureteroureterostomy is performed.
8. The method of claim 6 wherein said growth factor-containing composition is administered to said metanephric tissue by an osmotic pump.

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9. The method of claim 6 wherein said growth factor-containing composition is administered to said recipient such that said one or more growth factors for metanephric development are present in said recipient's blood that circulates through said metanephric tissue.

5 10. The method of claim 1 wherein said metanephric tissue is obtained from an embryonic pig, and said growth factor-containing composition comprises somatotropin.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein said metanephric tissue is obtained from an embryonic pig, and said growth factor-containing composition comprises IGF-I.

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